

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 06730 081501Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5037

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T CAIRO 6730

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PINS LE

SUBJECT: ABDUCTION OF COLONEL MORGAN IN BEIRUT

REF: STATE 159778

1. SINCE I WAS SEEING SADAT TODAY IN ALEXANDRIA TO INTRODUCE CODEL BONKER, I RAISED WITH PRESIDENT THE MATTER OF COLONEL MORGAN'S ABDUCTION. I NOTED TOMORROW'S DEADLINE AND THAT GOE AS HOST GOVERNMENT HAS ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURING MORGAN'S SAFE RELEASE. ANYTHING GOE MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO TO SUPPORT GOL IN THIS EFFORT WOULD BE HELPFUL. ADBUCTORS ARE APPARENTLY LEFT WING GROUP IN BEIRUT. THEIR ACTIONS, IF MORGAN NOT RELEASED UNHARMED, COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT ARAB IMAGE THROUGHOUT WORLD.

2. SADAT INDICATED AWARENESS OF THE MORGAN ABDUCTION AND SAID HE HAD ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION HE RECEIVED YESTERDAY, GEORGE HABBASH'S PFLP GROUP IS RESPONSIBLE. I SAID I HAD HEARD REPORT IT MIGHT BE A SMALL LEBANESE REVOLUTIONARY GROUP. HE INSISTED THIS WAS NOT SO, BUT INDICATED A WILLINGESS TO COMMUNICATE WITH KAMAL JUMBLAT TO SEE IF JUMBLAT COULD HELP. SADAT ASSURED ME HE WOULD DO WHAT HE CAN TO ASSIST GOL IN OBTAINING MORGAN'S RELEASE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO06730
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750235-0410
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750774/aaaacoaw.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 159778
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ABDUCTION OF COLONEL MORGAN IN BEIRUT
TAGS: PINS, LE, (SADAT, ANWAR), (MORGAN, ERNEST R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006